MR. T. P. RAMASUBBA AIYAR (*Secretary to Government*): It was not possible to do any work soon after the estimate was sanctioned as further investigation had to be made regarding the suitability of the design and the provision made for navigation during high floods. This work has, however, now been completed and a revised estimate has been made.

MR. K. I. JOSEPH (*Minachil* cum *Devicolam*): May I know why it took two years for the arrangement of the details?

MR. T. P. RAMASUBBA AIYAR (*Secretary to Government*): For want of funds, the work had to be held in abeyance till 1099. Subsequently, the investigation that I referred to had to be made and a revised estimate has been sent up. Now the work will be taken up.

MR. K. I. JOSEPH (*Minachil* cum *Devicolam*): With reference to part (*f*), does the Government think that any work will actually be done in the course of next year?

MR. T. P. RAMASUBBA AIYAR (*Secretary to Government*): About Rs. 10,000 has been provided for the purpose.

MR. K. I. JOSEPH (*Minachil* cum *Devicolam*): But will the Government take the necessary steps to see that some work at least is actually done on the spot in the course of the year 1101?

MR. T. P. RAMASUBBA AIYAR (*Secretary to Government*): Yes.

The Lalam-Ramapuram Road.

104. MR. K. I. JOSEPH (*Minachil* cum *Devicolam*): (*a*) Are the Government aware that the Lalam-Ramapuram road is not fit for cart traffic?

(*b*) Do the Government propose to do the needful in the course of 1101?

MR. T. P. RAMASUBBA AIYAR (*Secretary to Government*): (*a*) Yes; it was only a trace.

(*b*) The conversion of the trace into a cart road is proceeding and there is a provision for it in the budget for 1101 M. E.

MR. K. I. JOSEPH (*Minachil* cum *Devicolam*): For how long are these improvements being made?

MR. T. P. RAMASUBBA AIYAR (*Secretary to Government*): The member's attention is invited to page 10 of part 1 of the Detailed Budget of Works, item 115. It will be seen therefrom that, in 1099, Rs. 1,135 was spent and it is expected that Rs. 1,000 will be spent this year, so that the work has been going on from 1099 at least.

MR. K. I. JOSEPH (*Minachil* cum *Devicolam*): What portion of the work has been finished by this time?

MR. T. P. RAMASUBBA AIYAR (*Secretary to Government*): I can only give the member the amount spent on the work.

MR. K. I. JOSEPH (*Minachil* cum *Devicolam*): Of course the amount could be seen from the budget. But I want to know what actual work has been done.

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MR. T. P. RAMASUBBA AIYAR (*Secretary to Government*): The member may know it better than myself.

MR. K. I. JOSEPH (*Minachil* cum *Devicolam*): So far as I know, much has not been done.

MR. T. P. RAMASUBBA AIYAR (*Secretary to Government*): The amount spent is about Rs. 2,135, and Rs. 3,000 is budgeted for the next year.

MR. K. I. JOSEPH (*Minachil* cum *Devicolam*): Will the Government see that the work is completed in the near future?

MR. T. P. RAMASUBBA AIYAR (*Secretary to Government*): It is not possible to improve the whole length in 1101. A revised estimate is under preparation and some portion of the work will be done in 1101.

The Lalam-Punjar Road.

105. MR. K. I. JOSEPH (*Minachil* cum *Devicolam*): (*a*) Are the Government aware that the Lalam-Punjar road is, for the most part of the winter season, practically unfit for purposes of traffic for want of proper maintenance works?

(*b*) Do the Government propose doing anything for the improvement of the road in the near future?

MR. T. P. RAMASUBBA AIYAR (*Secretary to Government*): (*a*) The road is an earth-road maintained by the P. W. D. It is subject to submersion in some portions and consequently gets damaged during wet weather.

(*b*) The necessary improvement works have been taken up. Already an outlay of Rs. 3,608 has been incurred on the work up to the end of Edavam 1100. A provision of Rs. 2,000 has also been made for the same in the Preliminary Budget for 1101 M. E.

MR. K. I. JOSEPH (*Minachil* cum *Devicolam*): May I know which portions of the road are submerged during the wet weather?

MR. T. P. RAMASUBBA AIYAR (*Secretary to Government*): Such portions as are most liable to be submerged must have been submerged, I believe.

MR. K. I. JOSEPH (*Minachil* cum *Devicolam*): Is not the department in a position to know that? I mean the Public Works Department.

MR. T. P. RAMASUBBA AIYAR (*Secretary to Government*): When the demands are discussed, probably the member may be able to get the information from the Chief Engineer.

MR. K. I. JOSEPH (*Minachil* cum *Devicolam*): Are not the Government aware that it is due to want of proper maintenance works that the roads are now in that condition?

MR. T. P. RAMASUBBA AIYAR (*Secretary to Government*): No, not because of that. The road is an earth-road and has neither been gravelled nor metalled generally; but at a few bouldery ascents in miles 9 and 10 it was metalled some years ago. The road in some places is full of rocky and bouldery projections both in side drains and in the fair way. The first improvement required is to remove these obstructions and metal only a few indispensable ascents, including the approaches of

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the Erattupetta crossing. This improvement work was taken up in the current year and is in progress. So, unless radical changes are made in the matter of maintenance work, it is not possible to prevent submersion.

Communications in the Muvattupuzha and Todupuzha Taluks.

106. **MR. TARIATU KUNJITOMMAN** (*Muvattupuzha* cum *Todupuzha*): Will the Government be pleased to improve the facilities for communication in the inland taluks of Muvattupuzha and Todupuzha by undertaking the works mentioned below :—

(i) the six feet trace that runs from the Karimannur market in the Todupuzha taluk, *via* Neyyasseri and joins the Todupuzha-Kaliyar road at Vantamattam, to be widened and made fit for cart traffic ;

(ii) the six feet trace running from the 11th mile in the Muvattupuzha-Todupuzha road, passing near the Pakuthi Cutcherry at Kumaramangalam, to be made fit for cart traffic as far as Paingattur market on the Neduvakkad road ;

(iii) the trace running *via* Arikkuzha from Vazhakulam market to Vazhittala on the Kuttattukulam-Todupuzha road, to be made fit for cart traffic ;

(iv) the six feet trace that runs from Pezhakappilli on the Muvattupuzha-Perumpavur road, through the middle of the Mulavur pakuthi to Trikariyur, to be widened up to the Kotamangalam-Perumpavur road, and made fit for cart traffic ;

(v) the trace running from Anchappetti on the Kuttattukulam-Piravam road, *via* Pampakuda and passing near the Pakuthi Cutcherry at Ramamangalam, to be connected with the road from Puttancruz to the bank of the river ;

(vi) the road opened by the people running *via* Kurumuttam from the place where the Kotamangalam-High Range road meets the Kuttamangalam and Kotamangalam *pakuthies*, to be widened and connected with the Kuruppampadikkal-Kottappadikkal road under construction ; and

(vii) a road to be opened from the Muvattupuzha-Kotamangalam road to the Todupuzha-Kaliyar road *via* Pottanikkadu, Paingattur and Neduvakkad.

MR. T. P. RAMASUBBA AIYAR (*Secretary to Government*) : (i) to (v) The works are provided for in the Preliminary Budget for 1101 M. E.

(vi) A report is awaited.

(vii) The first section of the road up to Kalambur is in progress. In regard to the remaining sections, estimates have been called for.

Appointments in the Public Works Department.

107. **MR. TARIATU KUNJITOMMAN** (*Muvattupuzha* cum *Todupuzha*): Will the Government be pleased to place on the table a statement of officers drawing a salary of Rs. 25 and above in the Public Works Department, showing the number belonging to each caste?

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